

REMARKS

The present amendment is being filed under a Certificate of Mailing as indicated. Claims 1-3 and 5-8 are pending. Claim 1 has been amended. Claim 4 has been cancelled. Claims 9-29 have been withdrawn.

§102

Claims 1-3 and 5-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 5,908,423 to Kashuba et al. (“Kashuba”). Independent claim 1 has been amended to state that the reamer includes “a securing feature to rigidly attach the first component to the second component.” The securing feature includes a first connector part defining a first connector part axis and a second connector part defining a second connector part axis, such that the first connector part axis is skewed at a fixed angle relative to the second connector part axis. Kashuba does not disclose such a feature. If, as the previous Office Action suggests, the securing pin 12 of Kashuba is the securing feature, there is no disclosure in Kashuba of the securing pin 12 having two separate connector parts that define axes that are skewed at a fixed angle relative to one another. Therefore, for at least this reason, independent claim 1 and its dependents are believed to be allowable.

Conclusion

For the above-described reasons it is respectfully submitted that the rejections to the claims have been overcome and that all remaining claims, namely claims 1-3 and 5-8 are currently in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
Cynthia K. Barnett
/Cynthia K. Barnett/
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 48,655

Johnson & Johnson
One Johnson & Johnson Plaza
New Brunswick, NJ 08933-7003
(574) 372-7332
Date: October 21, 2008